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GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1837.

Italian Spring Wheat.

We have great pleasure in laying before the readers of the Farmer, by permission of the writer, the following statements respecting the kind, quality, and introduction of this valuable grain, from the pen of Mr. HATHAWAY of Rome, Oneida county, the gentleman who has been the means of introducing it into successful culture in this country. The importance of Spring wheat is yearly becoming more apparent; and the necessity of making a proper choice among the many varieties known has become imperious upon our farmers. English agriculturists describe the following kinds, all of which are supposed to have originated in the south of Europe; and by some botanical writers are considered as only a variety of winter wheat, the difference being effected by climate and cultivation. First, red Spring wheat, white ears, beardless;—second, red ear and grain, beardless;—third, ear or spike white, grain white, beardless;—fourth, Siberian Spring wheat, introduced into Oneida co. by Dr. Goodsell, bearded, and generally considered inferior in quality to the Italian, but a good grain for yield;— fifth, Egyptian wheat; in Europe treated and spoken of as a winter wheat; here sown as a spring wheat; but we have known many farmers who preferred sowing their spring wheat immediately before the freezing of the ground, in the fall;—sixth, Italian wheat, the kind spoken of in the communication of Mr. Hathaway, and apparently the most valuable of the varieties yet introduced among us. There is in the last No. of the Cultivator a paper from Mr. Speyerer of Pennsylvania, on the qualities and culture of another variety of spring grain called in Germany, where it is extensively grown, spelt wheat. Spelt, grows with a firm short stalk, will grow on most soils, and makes, when properly prepared, good flour: but as the berry much resembles barley, and cannot be divested of its adhesive husks by threshing, it requires the operation of a mill similar to those used for hulling rice or barley, before it can be manufactured into flour.

The extracts below are from a letter of Mr. Hathaway to a friend, who wishing to procure a quantity of the wheat, addressed Mr. H. on the subject; requesting information as to the manner of its introduction, kind of soil most favorable, mode of culture, &c. &c. Mr. Hathaway says—"The Italian spring wheat which has been disseminated through my means is an excellent grain, and a very sure crop. It yields largely, and has the wonderful property of doing well on poor worn out land, though of course the crop will be heavier on a more favorable soil; the fact is well ascertained here, that land so light and worn down, that it will not produce a crop of oats will bring a fair crop of spring wheat.

"The original imported wheat weighed full 63 lbs. to the bushel; and now that the fifth crop has come in, it weighs 62 lbs. The flour is fine, and the yield good; the millers speak highly of its qualities; and the flour makes good, light sweet bread, rather more moist perhaps than that from winter wheat. The Italian is a bearded wheat, white chaff, bright yellow straw, the berry variable in color, generally a reddish yellow.

"The proper time for sowing is in April, if the ground can be well fitted; this season has been peculiar, and late sown wheat, has succeeded best with us, and in some instances ripened soonest. It seldom is infected with smut, and if limed, never. From one and one-fourth, to one and a half bushels of seed are sown to the acre, rich land requiring the most.

"This wheat appears to be a cosmopolite," as it grows well, and does well on almost every variety of soil, from stiff clay to a sandy plain. In this county we have very little *good* wheat land, and I have not seen it growing on any that would be pronounced such by a western farmer. It usually ripens by the 14th of August, and yields from fifteen to thirty-five bush. per acre. The straw, this year from its rapid growth is less firm than usual, and is taller; the consequence is that it has lodged more than in any former year.

"I came in possession of the original wheat by accident. An Italian gentleman of Florence, married against his father's will, was disinherited, and emigrated to America, bringing, among a quantity of other seeds, a tierce of this wheat, intending to turn farmer. The wheat did not arrive seasonably for spring sowing in this place, and was left in a store house on the Canal. The gentleman contracted for a farm in the town of *Florence* in this county (induced by the *name* probably) was no farmer, made bad calculations, and worse experiments, and failed in every thing; soon became reduced, and was about to eat his imported wheat for which I had advanced him money to pay the transit and charges. I happened to see it, and was struck with its excellence, told him it must not be so disposed of, procured him other wheat, and took it at its cost in Italy, $2,50 per bushel. I succeeded in getting it into the hands of some of our farmers, though without much confidence on their part. But the result was most gratifying—the wheat actually producing about double the quantity usually grown on an acre, and selling at more than double the price of common spring wheat. From this it has all arisen."

A small sample of the wheat which accompanied the letter, by its appearance fully justifies the account given of its quality; being of a plumper berry than is usual in spring wheat, thinner skinned, and the kernels being more easily reduced to flour. The demand for the wheat has been great, and prices high, but it has become so extensively cultivated in that vicinity that it can be obtained for seed in any desirable quantity, and in all probability at somewhat reduced prices. The remark of Mr. Hathaway that in its adaptation to soil, the Italian wheat, might be considered cosmopolite, or every where at home, would seem to be applicable to it in reference to climate, as well as soils. It has been found to succeed admirably in Canada; where the culture of spring wheat promises to entirely supersede that of winter grain; and we have before us the Staunton Virginia Spectator of August 3d, which states that the Hon. Mr. Breckenridge last winter procured five or six bushels from Mr. Hathaway, and last spring distributed it among the farmers of that neighborhood. The yield has been good, varying from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre; thus establishing the fact that it may be successfully grown from the Canadas to Virginia. The editor remarks—"That he thinks it is not liable to rust, as he had fields of fall wheat smartly stricken with rust both sides of his patch of spring wheat while that was totally uninjured." We may here remark that in those sections of this state where the winter wheat has suffered the most from rust, the spring wheat has, except in a few partial instances, wholly escaped, the straw being unusually bright and fine.

We are glad to see the attention of farmers directed to this important grain, not because we suppose it can ever supersede the culture of winter wheat in this state, for it clearly ought not to; but because there are many parts of the country where winter wheat is so uncertain a crop, owing to the nature of the soil, and the roots freezing out in the winter, that it has been nearly abandoned, and here spring wheat must be one of the most valuable of crops to the farmer. Every farmer should sow a few acres, as it is increasing his chances of remuneration for labor performed on the farm, and lessening the chances of an ultimate failure of that great "staff of life," good bread.

Feeding Animals for Fattening.

There are we think few processes conducted by the farmer with less economy or profit to himself than that of fattening animals; and this it seems to us arises from the neglect of a few plain principles. In the first place they are only fed so as to make them grow finely instead of taking on fat; and in the second place their food is given to them unground, or uncooked, neither of which conditions ought to exist where it is desirable to fatten animals quickly, and of course, cheap and well. The experiments of Mr. Coleman show clearly the antonishing difference in favor of cooking corn meal for hogs, and it is scarcely less conspicuous in other things. Swine should never have more at a time than they can eat, but they should have just as much as they will eat, and have it fed to them so often that there shall not be a pretence for a single squeal. A good dry bed, plenty of cooked food, and a little brimstone or pounded charcoal occasionally thrown into their trough, seem to be requisite to fatten pork rapidly. Some farmers feed their apples and potatoes to their pigs raw; we are confident they would not do this, if they would once fairly test the two methods of feeding, in that state, or cooked. Sour apples when cooked are as good for swine as sweet ones; but raw, are decidedly inferior, making the teeth sore, and furnishing too much acid to the stomach, for the purpose of rapid nutrition. It is necessary to have good beef and pork, but they should not in the making, occasion a loss to the maker. Care and skill will prevent this.

Milk Strainers.

Much of the ease, facility, cleanliness, and consequently profits of the dairy depend upon the implements used in conducting it; and all will admit, that without a good strainer, neatness cannot be expected in its products of cheese and butter. We can remember when a strip of thin linen cloth closely held over the rim of the pail, while the latter was lifted in that awkard position by main strength, served as a strainer to a dairy, and the idea that an improvement could be made seems not to have been suspected. By and by, the fortunate genius of some yankee tinman, hit upon the tin strainer with its linen cloth and hoop, and the hearts of dairy maids were made glad by this decided improvement on the old mode of separating impurities from milk. These had their day, and then, better still, came the strainer mounted on a rim, with a piece of wire gauze neatly soldered to the bottom, and dispensing with much of the labor required by either of the former processes. All these, however, have been thrown into the shade, by a combination of the pail and strainer, which appears to be the *ne plus ultra* of neatness and convenience; at least such seems to be the opinion of those who have adopted the new article. The top of the pail is partially covered with a disc of tin, below which in the side of the pail is a piece of fine wire gauze soldered over an opening, and a broad but shallow spout, rising to the same height as the pail, and outside the strainer, conducts the milk into the vessel required. We are always pleased to notice any improvement that conduces to the ease of the laborer, and this dairy utensil, is, we think, clearly one of that class.

Lightning Rods for Barns.

We can scarcely take up a paper during the summer season of the year, without observing more or less notices of barns being struck by lightning, and in most cases, with all their contents consumed. The reason undoubtedly is, that masses of hay or grain, such as is put into barns, undergoes a slight process of heating, and this current of air rising from the building to the region of the clouds, serves as a conductor to the electric fluid, and consequently leads to the burning of the building. It is

frequently said that barns are more liable to be struck by lightning immediately after they are filled than before, or than when they have been filled for some time, and the ascending column of heated air at this time, furnishes a sufficient explanation of the fact. Yet, with a full knowledge of these circumstances, and an understanding that the time of greatest danger to the building, is when its contents are of the greatest value, how few are the barns that are provided with conductors, when their expense is so trifling, and their security from lightning so complete. The farmer who understands his true interests, and is desirous of securing and preserving his crops as well as gathering them, will provide his buildings with the necessary rods. Once erected, their duration will be commensurate with the building, and the security ample; and the farmer who neglects this mode of preserving his house or his barn, can have little claims on the charity or commiseration of the public.

Rust in Wheat.

Rust, blight and mildew are different names indicating the same thing, and that is a disease which sometimes proves fatal to the hopes of the farmer, by attacking and destroying his grain immediately before harvesting. Rust is now very generally considered as a parasitical plant of the fungus or mushroom kind, and is described by botanists as follows, "*Uredo linearis*, (yellow grain rust) in lines on the leaves and stem; stained reddish yellow. Found en the stems and leaves of barley, oats, rye and wheat."

It is not often that this disease of wheat has been so extensively injurious as it has proved this year; in western New-York alone, the damage may be estimated by millions. Until about the 20th of July the wheat crop rarely appeared more promising; the grain having apparently recovered from the effect of the severe winter, standing well, and the ears large and well set. Wet, damp, sultry weather followed, and a change at once came over the wheat fields. Rust showed itself in great quantities, and where the growth was the heaviest and most rapid, there the effect was as usual soonest discovered. The yellowish red of the rust, soon assumed a dark hue; and, as the progress of wheat so attacked seems to cease at once making any approaches to ripeness, the green wheat became discolored, giving a dirty cloudy hue to the whole field as far as diseased. If in a very green state, when attacked, as some fields that have fallen under our observation were, no berries are formed, if in a more advanced state the berry shrinks and becomes comparatively worthless. If the berry has nearly reached maturity, the injury it sustains is trifling; and hence those pieces of wheat, the present season, the most advanced, have suffered the least.

The cause of this diseased state of the wheat plant, and the manner in which it effects the berry so suddenly and so seriously, does not seem to be well understood, nor has any successful methods of prevention been devised; and the hope of eliciting communications from our farming friends, has been one of the objects in thus bringing it before them. Opinions which at first view appear discordant, may be the means of reaching the truth; and nothing aids this process more materially than observations in different places and under different circumstances, faithfully given to the public.

Several ways have been mentioned in which it was supposed rust was produced, and various causes have been assigned for its injurious effects on grain. Observing men, farmers, appear to be mostly agreed on three things as necessary to the production of this disease—heat, moisture, and a rapid growth; the latter may indeed be considered as a necessary consequence of the two former. The rust is generally first noticed when a few dry days succeed several damp sultry ones, or when in hot weather changes from wet to dry rapidly succeed each other.

Some farmers have supposed that the outer covering of the stem splits in consequence of the accumulation of sap in the vessels of the plant, and that the rust is simply the exuding juices of the plant through such opening. This supposition would seem to be founded on the fact that the pores of the plants are arranged in rows longitudinally, and as the root of the fungus is fixed in these, it of course assumes the linear form. It is not impossible however, but that as the roots of the parasite penetrate and expand, the checking the juices may cause the rupture which seems visible in some extreme cases.

Other farmers have maintained that the substance called honey dew, is the cause of rust, and they infer this from the fact that it is usually first observed in clear dry weather, a state of the atmosphere in which the phenomenon of honey dew is most frequently noticed. The appearance of honey dew is as much a mystery as that of rust, but that they are not the same, or that honey dew does not always become rust, may be inferred from the fact that it never assumes that form, on those substances where it is most frequently found, or most copiously deposited. The theory has been advanced that honey dew is the result of a chemical action depending on the electrical state of the atmosphere, and it derives in our opinion some plausibility from the comparative ease with which all farinaceous matter may be converted into sugar or rather honey, as in the case of starch from potatoes or flour.—At the time rust takes place, the juices of the plant are undergoing the change that renders them fit to supply the berry with its farina, and it is not impossible that after this change has been partially developed, large supplies of moisture accompanied by heat, may produce an action or fermentation of this matter, that shall change its nature, render its conversion into farina impracticable, and cause it to exude through the pores of the plant where it becomes visible in the shape of rust.

It is obvious, however, that much that is asserted respecting rust is mere matter of conjecture. That its origin is involved in doubt, and the manner in which it affects the plant, not well understood, is clear; but it by no means necessarily follows that this uncertainty arises from causes that cannot be overcome, or difficulties that cannot be removed. Men of science should investigate, and practical men should observe, and facts might thus ere long be accumulated which would enable us to trace this and similar evils to its source, and apply the proper correctives. Time and talent, however, are required to successfully prosecute such inquiries, and few men are able to devote the necessary time without compensation. It is our firm belief, that had our legislature, at the time the subject of the wheat worm was brought before them by a memorial from the State Ag. Society, made an appropriation of ten thousand dollars to be paid to the individual or individuals who should clearly determine the insect or insects that produce the worm in the ear, and place its history and habits beyond a doubt, and discover some effectual remedy to its ravages, the State would at this moment been millions of dollars richer. The State has lavished its millions on education. Education is an excellent thing; but it is our opinion that had twenty thousand dollars been devoted to elucidating a few points connected with bread, such as the fly, worm, and rust, the agriculture of the State would soon have been in quite a different position from what it is now like to be, the morals and education of the people quite as good.

Beet Sugar.

Mr. Editor,—A gentleman, who has been some time out of business, wishes to inform your correspondents, "Many Farmers," that he has employed his leisure time in experiments on the Sugar Beet, and has succeeded in making sugar on a small scale. If "Many Farmers" will form a company, for the purpose of making their beets into sugar, he will have no objection to take a share in it, and superintend the making of sugar. Or if they will sell their beets at a low price, delivered in this city, should they have a sufficient quantity to pay him for the expense of erecting machinery, he will purchase the beets of them and manufacture them. A note left at this office, directed to I. L., stating the quantity of beets they have, the price they will sell them at, or the terms upon which they would be willing to engage, will meet with attention.—[*U. S. Gazette.*

☞ If our friends of Northampton, who have sent an agent to France to procure information respecting the process of manufacturing Beet Sugar, had taken hold of the thing at the right end, as the writer of the paragraph above has done, they might have had specimens for exhibition and sale, and saved a little money, which, at the present time, is a consideration of some moment. If there be sugar *in the Beet*, it requires but a very simple operation *to get it out.* That the saccharine substance is contained in the juice, and must be obtained by boiling, we suppose are too plain propositions to be denied; and to send an agent to Europe to get instructions for a Yankee, who can make sugar, not only from the juice of the maple, but from corn-stalks and pumpkins, would seem to be a work of supererogation. The first experiment might as well have been made at once, by grinding the cleansed Beets in a common cider mill, expressing the juice in the same manner as that employed with apples, and then boiling down the juice. Experience will suggest improvements, and if some of our N. Englanders cannot invent all that is necessary to accommodate extended manufacture, we have never understood their character aright.—*Bost. Courier.*

Lime on Potatoes.

We do not recollect to have seen any account of Lime used in the cultivation of potatoes in the mode which we are informed by an acquaintance has come within his observation and experience, and with the most happy results. We hope many of our agricultural friends will test the utility of Lime in this mode the present season, and communicate to us the result for publication. Our friend says:

"I learned on inquiry of a quiet experimenting and scientific man, that he raised Potatoes of the best quality by simply dropping into the hole with the potatoes when he planted them about half a pint of slacked Lime, and never knew the crop to be bad in quality or small in quantity. I tried Lime after his fashion, and had not a few horse laughs from old fashioned potato planters for so doing. Well, 'let them laugh that lose, they who win *will* laugh.' I did win: for where for many years before I had raised Potatoes of the very worst quality, in the old way of manuring,—with the lime dressing alone, I raised Potatoes of the very best kind. My Chenangoes were uniformly dry, sweet and abundant. The results were the same the two past seasons, both on a light sandy loam and on a stiff clayey ground."

Lime, put into the hill manured with Rock Weed, will, it is believed, counteract the bad effects resulting from this kind of manure.—Try it, farmers—believe me, *this* "experiment" will not rob your pockets,—try it.—One *good* potato is worth *two* bad ones, for man or beast.—*Portland Farmer.*

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In the last number of the Farmer we gave a brief article on the use of "Lime on Potatoes." We have obtained from the friend who gave us the information contained in that article some further information, which we lay before our readers, with the wish that many will test the utility of Lime in the mode there spoken of. He now says,—

"Besides using Lime with Potatoes, I have used it with various garden vegetables, such as onions, beets, carrots, peas, beans, squashes, &c. with which I am satisfied, they yield abundantly. In my hills for squashes I put dirt collected under my sink-spout, they grew (the year before last) remarkably well, and I gathered many, some of which weighed upwards of thirty pounds, and were of a delicious flavor.

"About three years since, I rode in the stage from Portland to Fryeburg, in company with an intelligent young farmer belonging to the latter place, in the month of June. He had an eye for everything that we passed in the line of his profession, and was free in his remarks. In the course of conversation, I observed that lime was considerably used, and with great advantage in some parts of our country on tilled land, and asked him if he had ever used it. He answered that he had only once, the year before, used it; that he had taken up his barn floor and had collected a considerable quantity of manure, which had in it many red worms; that he mixed lime with the manure, thinking to destroy the worms; the corn dressed with this mixture was far superior to any other on his farm, strikingly so; and that he should give it further trial, confident that he should be rewarded for doing it.

"I have known some farmers use it as top dressing for their grass land, but without any visible advantage. My old friend (alluded to in your last) says,

so far as his experience has taught, you might as well strew lime over Casco Bay, as strew it on your ground as a top dressing. It must be buried in the soil, to be of any advantage to it."—*Ib.*

From the Buckeye Plough Boy.

Apples for Fattening Animals.

Dr. Fry—Having learned that you are making arrangements to publish an agriculturul periodical designed for the benefit of farmers of Ohio, permit me through your columns to state a few facts showing the utility of *apples* for fattening domestic animals. In the autumn of 1833, if I do not misremember, I was first induced to try the experiment, —it was to me then an experiment. Having more apples than we needed for other uses, and fully convinced of the evil of making them into cider for common use, I suffered my hogs to run in the orchard and take the apples as they fell from the trees. Before the apples were fully ripened, as they began to fall contrary to my expectation, my hogs began to gain flesh, and during the season, they became fat with no other feed except the wash of the kitchen. Several that I had designed to keep, before I was aware of it, became too fat for the object designed. This lot, if I mistake not, weighed as I butchered them from the orchard, from 200 to 350 pounds each. The same season I suffered some of my sheep to remain in the orchard and with equal success. The next season, our fruit was cut off. But the last two seasons, I have made my pork from my orchard; and during these seasons I have confined my hogs exclusively to *sour* apples; and still I have never killed lots of pork, that were better fatted, more solid, or of better flavor. To carry the experiment farther, last year I took from my stock an old cow that had given milk through the summer, and fed her exclusively on sour apples. She ate about half a bushel, morning and evening. She fattened well and made a first rate beef. It is, therefore no longer with me a question whether apples are profitable for fattening domestic animals; the fact is fully tested.

And not only are they profitable for *fattening* such animals; but they are equally good for feed to sustain the same animals through the winter. For two years past I have gathered a quantity of my late apples and laid them up for use, and have found them much cheaper than corn, and equally good for feed to keep hogs through the winter.

If, in your apprehension, Mr. Editor, the above statements will be of any use to the public, you are at liberty to use it.

Very Respectfully Yours,
HARVEY BALDWIN.

Hudson, August, 1837.

Pork Making.

The season for fattening swine is at hand,—but is it a profitable business or not? The answer must depend upon a great many circumstances, such as the facilities of procuring food and the conveniences of preparing it—cost of labor, and price of the articles in the market,—as also the propensity of the breed to lay on fat.

Our friend Paine Wingate we hope is at the business again, with his *apple sauce* and oat meal, carefully noting the expenditure and the increase.—He has a large orchard, and the apples come to him some cheaper than they would to a person who purchases them. Can a person who has to purchase the pig and the material for fattening him make it more profitable than to purchase in the market at 6 cts. per pound? If he is a careful and saving man he probably can do it. A writer in the number of the Cultivator for May, 1836, makes the following statement: He purchased two pigs Dec. 22, 1834 —gave for them $6,50—they weighed 316 pounds, and were eight months old. They were put into a warm pen, and fed regularly, with six quarts per day (in three feeds) of rye or corn meal, until the next October.

The feed was then increased to nine quarts per day, until the 7th of December, when they were killed, being about twenty months old, and weighed 1138. They were fed on grain 349 days, and drank the refuse milk of two cows, and had a few weeds from the garden. He goes on to state that "if we allow one third offal in dressing they gained in live weight a fraction under three pounds and a half per day, and cost each day about ten cents.

They ate fifty-five bushels of corn and rye; the grain was ground fine, and the toll taken out; in cold weather it was scalded and fed warm, in warm weather it was fed dry and milk poured on it in the trough,—none was ever made into swill and fermented.

The Grain cost 62½ cents per bushel =$34,37½—value of the pork at $7 per hundred =$79,66—deducting first cost and grain it leaves a balance in fa- of the producer of $30,28½."

This is a pretty fair profit; but let us review the process and vary it to suit our latitude, and see whether there be a gain or loss. In the first place he purchased the shoats much cheaper than it can be done with us. We should be doing pretty well to get them for twice that sum, say $13,00. The regularity and precision with which they were fed and the warmth of their pens, kept them quiet and disposed to fatten—these things cost no more in our region than in New York, and should be much more practised than they are. In the next place we should do well to get corn or rye meal at a dollar a bushel, instead of 62½ cents. This would amount to $55,00 and the probability is that $6 per hundred would be all that could be obtained for them, at a time when corn is a dollar per bushel. The expense then would be $68,00, and the sales $68,28—making 28 cents against them. But cannot pork be made equally as good with cheaper material? We answer *yes*. Apples, potatoes, oat and pea meal, barley meal, &c. will make it. Barley meal is thought to be equally as good as rye or corn. At 67 cents, 55 bushels will amount to $36,85 instead of $55,00, and consequently reduce the expense of feeding $18,15, which of course would give nearly that profit, allowing that they come up to the same weight. From the above calculations, it follows, that pork making is not a lucrative business: but may be made moderately profitable to those who have plenty of cheap but nutritious food for hogs, and take proper and suitable care of them. We have this to comfort us, that the pork we do make, is genuine *pork*, and not the flabby, oily stuff which is brought from the forests of the far west, and actually worth one half more in the economy of a family.—*Maine Farmer.*

Profitable Hens.

Eaton, Mass. July, 1837.

I sent you an account of my success last year in keeping hens, and will thank you to publish it to let people know how many eggs a hen lays in a year. I have heard speculation on the subject, and last year I kept an account, which is as follows:

On the first of January, 1836, I had ten hens and one good crower. In the spring I suffered three of them to go thro' the process of incubation, which left me seven to make my experiment upon. The three which raised chickens, gave me twenty-four in number, which I sold for a shilling each when they were the size of quails. The sooner you sell your chickens the better for they will not bring but three or four cents more when full grown than when half grown.

When the year was cut on the first of last January, I looked over my account and found that my hens had given me ninety-six dozen of eggs, which were sold for $15,91. What we had used in the family made the whole quantity one hundred and ten dozen. The lowest price I sold any for was 13 cents per dozen—the highest 25 cents. I have asked many farmers to guess the number, but they always came short of it.

They ask me what I give them to make them so prolific, I enquired how they treat theirs, what they gave them to eat, and where they rest at night.—They tell me they let them rest in barns or on apple trees—not giving them much except what they can pick up around the house and barn. They think warm dough will freeze in their crops and kill them in cold weather.

Now I'll tell you how I keep the hens. I cause a good house to be made for them on the south side of a hill, and stone it up so warm that an egg will scarcely ever get frozen. During half the time in winter I gave the hens boiled potatoes and bran or meal, mixed together with warm water. I never lost any hens in consequence of this dough freezing in their crops; if they have a good warm house to set in, dough will not hurt them any more than warm cakes will kill a man. For the remainder of the time, I give them oats instead of corn. I have bought oats in Boston for seventy cents a bushel, while corn was, at the same time, one dollar and ten cents, and tried the hens first on the oats and then on the corn. Before feeding the hens I would let the oats soak in warm water for three or four hours, till they got well swelled, and in this way I found that a bushel of oats would go as far as a bushel and a half of corn; thus in using oats instead of corn I saved ninety-five cents to every bushel consumed.

Hens will dust themselves every day when they can get dry dirt. In the winter, when they cannot, I place a large box of coal-pit dust in their house and keep it dry so that it cannot freeze; this answers every purpose.

Hens should never be kept near cattle, for their vermin will escape to the cattle and prevent them from growing fat.

I preserve all the pieces of white earthen ware that I can find, and when the ground is covered with snow, I pulverize it and give it to them. I find by experience they will eat it in preference to corn. Water is always placed within their reach.

Last year, according to the best of my calculation, the cost of keeping my ten hens were $9. I sold eggs to the amount of $15,91, and the chickens to that of $4—leaving a nett profit in one season of $10,91. Besides this eleven dozen of eggs, worth a shilling a dozen were used in the family.

Timothy Sown with Buckwheat.

On a late visit to Coxsackie, we were shown fields of heavy grass, on the farm of Judge Van Bergen, which were sown severally in 1835, 1836 and 1837, with buckwheat and timothy. The soil is a pretty tenacious clay, which it is often difficult thoroughly to work in spring or autumn; but it may be generally well worked in summer; and when the timothy is sown at this time with buckwheat, it vegetates promptly, and becomes well established before winter. Clover may be added, if necessary, the following spring. The grass was uncommonly heavy; and on the field sown the current year, it was thick and promising.

We had an opportunity, at Coxsackie, of comparing meadows which had been long in grass, with those in which tillage crops had been made to alternate with grass, and of fully satisfying ourselves, had a doubt remained on our minds, of the great utility of the latter practice. The recently stocked meadows, although apparently no better in quality of soil, or location, than the others, exhibited a burthen of grass two, three, four, and in some instances, we believe, five timesgreater than the old meadows.—*Cultivator.*

Smut in Grain.

We are surprised to learn that smut is still permitted to adulterate and diminish our grain crops, when it is a fact amply and satisfactorily established, that steeping the seed grain twelve hours in brine, and rolling it in fresh slaked lime, before sowing, will prevent the evil. The *pepper-brand* and *dust-brand*, the two species of smut, are parasitic plants, the minute seeds of which attach to the grain, and are propelled through the sap vessels of the plant, to the germs of the young grain. The salt and lime destroy the vitality of these seeds.—*Ib.*

To destroy the Hessian Fly.

A farmer in Ohio has adopted the successful expedient:—He sows early in September, and feeds it down in November. The fly is lodged in the lower joints of the grain, and is *bitten off and destroyed* by the cattle or sheep which feed upon it. The wheat becomes well established by being sown early, and shoots so vigorously in spring as to be little if any affected by the fly. An experiment was made in two adjoining fields, sown at the same time: one was *not* fed down, and was nearly destroyed by the Hessian fly; the other *was* fed down, and wholly escaped the insect. We state this on the best authority.—*Cultivator.*

The wheat raised about Oxford, Chenango county, both Italian and common, is said to be excellent—though the Italian seed is preferred. "The quantity raised this season exceeds that of the three preceding years."

COMMUNICATIONS.

Crops of 1837, in East Bloomfield.

Mr. Tucker—Having given reports of the crops in East Bloomfield for three years past, I am induced to continue the practice, not because I would excite a panic that we are going to suffer greater privations than last winter, or encourage hopes that we have a super-abundance; but for the purpose of having a record of our crops, that we may compare one year with another.

Our *Wheat* is poor: probably a greater failure than we have had for the last ten years. Although there are some fine crops, almost every farmer complains of some one or two fields scarcely worth harvesting. In the first place, the time of sowing was very unfavorable; wheat grew very little during the fall except that sowed the first of September. Almost all fields sown in October remained bare until spring. The months of April and May were also peculiarly severe upon this crop. After having an unusual number of thawing days and freezing nights, we had very cold dry winds prevailing for a long time which seemed to dry up and chill to death every vestige of a root exposed to its influence. Wherever a field was found protected from these winds, and was sown early enough to get a good growth in the fall, there was almost invariably found a good growth of wheat; even a fence, a tree, or a snow bank, would shield parts of fields, while the remainder looked as barren as the road. I noticed one instance of a field very much exposed to north-west winds, which was apparently saved by the long yard manure which was most wastefully put upon it, and which would undoubtedly have spoiled the wheat in an ordinary season. The manure caused it to have a good fall growth, and served as a protection in the spring, and this field thus managed, contrary to all rule, produced the best piece of wheat I have seen. And here permit me to say, had we followed a suggestion published in your paper some time since, and spread a thin layer of straw or coarse manure upon our fields, I see no reason why the wheat might not have been saved. As to varieties, so far as my observation has extended, the *red chaff* is much the best—the berry much plumper and the head longer. Insects have not troubled us much, but chess has turned a great deal of the wheat sown, *topsy turvy*, and the advocates of transmutation will have their faith much strengthened by the present crop. We suffered severely by the rust, althoug hperhaps not as much as some of the neighboring towns. The months of June and July were very fair for wheat, and wherever there was a root left, it grew most astonishingly. High hopes were entertained that we should have an abundant crop, and to the inexperienced nothing could be more promising; but older heads foreboded evil from the extreme lateness of the season. Two or three unpropitious days completely reversed the picture, and that which was all promise and expectation, was swept as with the besom of destruction.

Barley—This crop is very fine. I think I never saw better. The great objection to this crop, that it interferes with our wheat harvest, has been obviated this year by the wheat ripening so late.

Oats are very good. I have not seen a single field but what promised an abundant harvest.

Corn—There was much anxiety manifested in the spring to raise corn, it being then so very scarce and high. Many planted too early, before the long rains, and without manure. Some fields planted the middle of May look pretty well; but the weather is so cold and corn so late, that there is great probability that we shall not raise half as much as we did last year. We cannot reasonably hope that Jack Frost will delay his coming until corn is matured sufficiently for seed.

Grass is in general very good. Old low land meadows have not done as well as usual. But upland, recently seeded, has been uncommonly good. On the whole I think the quantity of hay secured will be more than an average yield.

Potatoes promise a bountiful crop. There never was more planted, and they never looked better. The expectations, which many news-paper writers have indulged in, that every thing would be cheap this fall, will I think be realized in potatoes at least.

Buckwheat, I believe, is pretty good, especially early sowed; some pieces have already, and others probably will be, injured by the frost.

Peas—I have not noticed as many fields as usual of this crop. I believe they have done very well.

Flax—Some farmers among us are raising flax for the seed, and it has donewell.

Ruta Baga, &c.—Root crops are getting more and more popular every year. Many farmers have tried them for the first time this year, and the eye of the traveler is greeted in every direction with patches of Mangel Wurzel, Ruta Baga or Carrots; and a close observer can almost invariably tell a new beginner in root culture by his having them altogether too thick. The more experience a man has, the more room he will give them, and they are sure to occupy the whole of it. The season has been thus far very propitious for all kinds of roots, and the yield will be very great.

Wool—We raised much more wool this season than common, and it remains in the hands of the grower.—Probably the depression of this article in the market will tend to decrease our flocks if there should be a market for sheep.

In conclusion I would say, that, taking all the produce of our fields together, we are like to have more than an ordinary crop; but of those which command *cash* we are deficient. Yours, &c. O. P. Q

East Bloomfield, Sept. 1st, 1837.

Wheat Worm versus Weevil.

Mr. Tucker—I sometimes see the Journals of New England, both agricultural and political, and I perceive that in speaking of the insect which has committed such ravages in their wheat crops, as well as in the central parts of this State, they uniformly denominate it the *weevil;* and the same designation, is, to a considerable extent, conferred upon it in what are called the river counties of this State, where it has so far proved more destructive than elsewhere in New-York My object is to ask if this name is correct, or rather, whether it is in this instance properly applied.

In order to discover a remedy for any evil, it is necessary that our inquiries into its cause and origin be correctly made in the outset, or instead of arriving at truth as the result, we may only find ourselves more hopelessly involved in error. That the wheat worm is an evil of the first magnitude to the wheat grower, none who have witnessed its ravages will deny; but if we would hope to remove this scourge to the agriculturist, the researches and inquiries of the observing should not be, by the adoption of a wrong name, put upon a false scent in the outset.—By the term "insect," in connection with wheat in Europe and in all parts of this country, is generally understood the Hessian fly; by the term "weevil," is meant by scientific writers, and should be so used by all, the insect that attacks wheat in granaries or when collected in quantities, and is uniformly more troublesome in a warm climate than in a cold one,—and by the term "wheat worm," is well distinguished the insect which destroys the standing wheat in the ear, but molests it no where else: and it would prevent some confusion both at home and abroad if these distinctions were kept in view by writers on these subjects. In consequence of applying the same name, to creatures so dissimilar in their habits and modes of destruction, it has become almost impossible to make agriculturists at the south, or in England, understand what we in New-York mean by the wheat worm; the former supposing we intend the actual weevil with which they are so familiar; and the latter that we mean the Hessian fly, to the ravages of which they are accustomed; when in truth the wheat worm which is so destructive among us cannot with any propriety be classed with either.

With the appearance of the Hessian fly, both in the state of the perfect insect, and in that of the larvæ, in which condition it injures the stalk of the wheat, never the ear, every farmer is acquainted; but it is not so with the weevil, and I shall give a condensed sketch of this insect and its habits, that the points of distinction between this insect and the wheat worm may be at once apparent. The weevil properly so called, is the *curculio granaria*, genus Calcurdra, order Coleoptera; or in other words, belongs to the great family of the *bugs*. In the south of Europe, Italy, France and Spain, it is very destructive; is frequent in England; scarce in Scotland, and in the United States is rarely productive of injury except in that part south of Pennsylvania. In southern granaries, its increase and voracity is astonishing. "This little creature measures about two lines in length, is generally of a pitchy red, smooth, the thorax deeply punctured. The elytra are rather narrower than the base of the thorax, and do not cover the extremities of the abdomen. They are marked with deep striæ, punctured in the bottom. The legs are ferruginious." The mischief is done during the summer months, from April to September. M. Audouin, who has carefully examined the habits of this insect and its changes, says the insect after burying herself in a heap of wheat or barley, pierces the envelope of the kernel, and at the bottom of a hole so bored, deposites a single egg, and the hole is then closed with a glutinous matter. The egg thus laid is soon hatched, and gives birth to a very minute, white, soft elongated worm, composed of nine segments, and which feeds on the farina or flour of the berry. Having speedily attained its increase, it is transformed into a nymph, remains in that state eight or ten days, and then becomes the perfect insect, ere long to produce in its turn a numerous progeny. The celebrated Degeer has estimated that a single pair in the course of a season, will multiply to about 24,000 individuals, and hence a few hundred of them having once effected a lodgment in a granary, would easily in the course of four or five months destroy one or two hundred millions of grains. About forty days may be stated as the average time between the union of the sexes, and the re-production of the perfect insect, but this term may be greatly lessened by an increase of temperature, as the experiments of Reaumur fully proved.

From this imperfect sketch it will be seen that the parent of the weevil is a *bug*; that it deposites its egg in the kernel after it is gathered in the granary; that the worm produced from the egg is *white* and lives *in* the grain till prepared to undergo transformation; and that several generations are produced in a year.

The history of the wheat worm is as yet but imperfectly understood, yet all observers are unanimous that its parent is a *fly*, and most probably a species of *tipula*. That it is the production of a fly is evident from the fact that larvæ secured from the wheat, and kept, have thus undergone transformation and produced a fly as the perfect insect. The parent of the wheat worm is a fly instead of a bug; is decidedly yellow from the earliest moment, while the weevil is white; is in most cases deposited between the chaff and the berry, and lives without instead of within the grain; and what is perfectly conclusive as to the distinction between the two, always attacks the grain in the ear, and never in any other way.

If these distinctions, which I think are well founded, are kept in view by those who are engaged in the laudable purpose of disseminating agricultural information, or endeavoring to correct the evils that so essentially retard its prosperity and lessen the profits of the farmer, inquirers into the history of the wheat worm will not be led astray by an incorrect definition, or an unfounded and impossible parentage of the insect in question. M. D.

Diarrhœa or Scouring.

I lately had the care of a horse that was very ill with diarrhœa or scouring; and as the disease proved obstinate, it may be useful to others to know how we eventually succeeded. He had been sick for ten or twelve days. His ears, nose, and legs became cold; and his owner expected him to die.

Castor oil, opium, brandy, and alkaline medicines were all exhibited by drenching, and some others by injection; but the disease continued attended with great thirst. Water was not allowed except when medicated: Had it been, I think he must soon have died, for the symptoms were aggravated whenever he was indulged; but within a day or two after the following plan was *strictly adhered to*, he grew better:—*He was confined to the stable, cov-*

ered with a blanket, and allowed nothing but hay, oats and slippery elm drink.

At first he had but very little appetite, and no relish for such drink; but when green food and cold water were withheld, *the occasional cause* of the disease was removed; and with his appetite, the natural heat returned.

In procuring elm bark, the dry rough part should be removed, as it renders the drink more unpalatable. A hatful is enough at one time. Put it into a pail, and pour on scalding water; stir it to diffuse the mucilage; and when cool enough, it may be set before the horse; but he will be in no hurry to drink it. The same bark will do for several times. This method is better than to make five pailsfull at once in an iron kettle, as it would soon ferment in hot weather, and the metal impart a disagreeable taste.

On inquiry, I find that horses are not unfrequently lost in this disease; and a sense of duty has overcome my reluctance to hold the pen. Oxen are also occasionally seized with the same complaint. My next neighbor effected a cure the other day, by putting *dry flour in a bag, and boiling it thoroughly. When cold it was pulverized, and a quart given for a dose.* The ox is generally willing to take it, and one dose has proved sufficient.

A. FARMER.

From the New England Farmer.

Poudrette.

How we manage some things.

MR. EDITOR:—Eating and drinking and some other common, or at least occasional employments, may in these days of refinement, be considered somewhat vulgar. Still eating and some other kinds of business which cannot be done by proxy, are, occasionally, very necessary; and, since you request communications, I will tell you a little about how we manage some things. We are not remarkably fond of the suffocating stench, and poisonous effluvia, from putrid excrements, and as we wish to unite *profit* with comfort and cleanliness we take the following method.

We make our backhouse front towards the south. The seat is then placed on the north side so as not to be acted upon directly by the rays of a hot summer's sun.

We occasionally place a few cart loads of dirt near the north side of our backhouse.

The lower part of the covering of the north side of our backhouse from a little below the top of the seat downwards, is a horizontal door, so hung that we can turn it up and down at our leisure, and thus have free access to the parts below the seat, and can easily remove all offensive and putrid matters from the place, and we can also supply fresh dirt when we please. Lime with us is scarce and dear—and according to Sir Humphrey Davy, though quicklime removes the bad smell from putrid manures, and forms with them a valuable compost, yet the compost formed with putrid matters and quicklime, is less powerful as a manure than the compost formed with the same putrid matters with dirt or soil instead of lime.

We allow no vault for the retention of putrifying feces and the production of poisonous gasses to be made under our backhouse, but, instead of this we turn up the horizontal back door before mentioned, and throw a few shovel fulls of fresh and sweet dirt under the seat, and at suitable times we remove what has fallen under the seat, together with the dirt on which it fell. This we throw into a heap and cover it well with some of the dirt which we had previously placed near by, and again we also throw fresh and sweet dirt under the seat. Turn down the back door again, and all is sweet and pleasant about the backhouse, and this operation which occupies from two or three to six or eight minutes, we repeat as often as is necessary to prevent the bad smell which would otherwise be always arising from putrid excrements.

I said we like to unite *profit*, with comfort and cleanliness; and in this way with a little attention, and a little labor, we are delivered from these seeds of cholera, and yellow fever, and from the poisonous and suffocating fumes, which are frequently so annoying to those who are occasionally compelled to retire a while from public view. And with a family of six persons and a few loads of dirt we form from one to two cords (of 128 cubic feet each) of a very valuable compost manure, which if lightly ploughed in, produces powerful effects on corn or on English grain. If put into corn or cabbage hills, it ought to be slightly covered with dirt before dropping the seed. Put into the hills and slightly covered with fine dirt before dropping the seed, I have seen nothing make cabbages grow like it.

It is of so volatile a nature that if spread and left on the top of the ground or on grass, we should expect a great part of its value would be lost.

If the droppings from the seat are all allowed to remain a considerable time before they are removed and well buried, the compost will be liable to be infested with a kind of worms or maggots which sometimes attack the roots of the corn, cabbages, &c.—Under these circumstances we have got rid of the worms and saved our plants by watering the cabbages with lime water, prepared by mixing six or eight quarts of quick lime with a barrel of water.—But prevention is better than cure. And to prevent the attack of the worms, let the dropping from the seat be removed and well buried before the little flies and other foul feeders deposite their eggs in it. The eggs of the large flies, soon turn to flies, and in warm weather they fly away in a few days, and are not the cause of the mischief of which we have been speaking.

Now by making compost as above described, and using it judiciously, I should suppose that a family of six persons might not only have a great addition made to their cleanliness, their health, and their comfort, but might also have a yearly addition to their income of a barrel of flour. Surely this, in hard times, is a thing not to be despised. We certainly should not be willing to sell the compost we make in a year, in this way, for *one* barrel of flour, even if it have the most approved fancy brand which connoisseurs admire.

And the compost, if it contains a proper quantity of dirt is not a bad smelling manure after it has lain a few months.

Now then let us calculate a little. Massachusetts at this time, probably, contains six or seven hundred thousand inhabitants. Then let some course be taken, which would save to every six persons an additional barrel of flour yearly, and there would be a yearly saving of a hundred thousand barrels of flour for Massachusetts, and probably about 50,000 barrels for Connecticut. And 150,000 barrels of flour at $10 per barrel, would amount to *one million five hundred thousand dollars!!!* Surely this is an amount worth making some exertions for. At this rate the saving for 15,000,000 persons (the supposed population of these United States,) would be 2,500,000 barrels of flour, which at $10 per barrel would amount to *twenty-five millions of dollars in one year!!!*

But in cities this plan of making compost, with dirt, cannot be conveniently carried on into full effect for want of room.

In cities they may keep their backhouses sweet with lime; and may thus prepare a valuable manure.

Suppose then we follow the plan of making compost with dirt, (as before described) only in the country, and instead of 150,000 barrels of flour have only 100,000 barrels for Massachusetts and Connecticut, this at $10 per barrel would amount to *one million of dollars!* And this in hard times would be no very small amount. And if one million of dollars might be saved annually in Massachusetts and Connecticut, 16 or 17 millions of dollars might be annually saved in the whole of these United States by the same means!!

When the article in question is dropped promiscuously on the surface of the ground besides being odious to the sight and the smell it is of so volatile a nature, that almost the whole of its fertilizing virtues are lost to the soil.

And now, Mr. Editor, if any persons rather than to keep things about them clean and wholesome, are still determined to regulate their olfactories with the poisonous fumes of putrid privies, at the cost of feeding upon musty wheat and rye, imported at great expense from Russia and Germany, I suppose that in this land of liberty we must allow them the privilege of doing so, although by so doing the nation is drained of a great amount of its gold and treasure. Yet we should greatly prefer seeking a practical attention given to the directions of that great teacher, who told his disciples to "*Let nothing be lost!*"

Yours, respectfully, H.

E. H. Conn. June 28, 1837.

From the Hagerstown Torch Light.

Hussey's Reaping Machine.

MR. BELL:—Dear Sir,—Will you please give this a place in your paper, for the benefit of wheat growers. As the subject is of public interest it is hoped that other papers will circulate it through the grain growing districts of the country.

I procured a Reaping machine this summer of Mr. Hussey, the inventor, which I have used through my wheat harvest. It was in constant use every day, and performed its work to my satisfaction, and far better than I had any expectation of when I first engaged it of Mr. Hussey. When the ground is clear of rocks, loose stones, stumps, &c. and the grain stands well, it cuts it perfectly clear, taking every head and if well managed scatters none; but leaves it in near heaps ready for binding. When the grain is flat down the machine will of course pass over it—but if it be leaning, or tangled only, it is cut nearly as well as if standing, excepting when it leans from the machine, and then if the horses are put in a trot it will be very well cut. But in cutting such grain much depends on the expertness of the hand, who pushes off the grain, in making clean work, and good sheaves. I found the machine capable of going through any thing growing on my wheat land, such as weeds and grass, no matter how thick.

After my harvest was over I cut my seed timothy, with the same neatness and ease, that I did my grain. As respects the durability of the machine, I can say this much for my machine, that not the least thing has given out yet; it appears as strong as a cart, and but little liable of getting out of order, if well used. I was advised by Mr. Hussey of the necessity of keeping some of the parts well greased; this I have punctually attended to, and no perceptible wear yet appears, beyond ordinary wear of any other machinery.

It is immaterial to the machine whether the speed be a walk or a trot; although a walk will make the most perfect work. My speed was a common walk, but a trot is sometimes necessary to counteract the effect of a strong wind when blowing from behind, in order to incline the grain backwards on to the platform, to make good bundles. A quick walk is required to make good work in very short and scattering grain. The machine performs well, up and down hill, provided, the surface be not too much broken. By its compactness and ease of management, rocks and stumps too high to be cut over, can be easily avoided. Although a rough surface is very objectionable, yet I have cut over very rocky ground with no material difficulty. I can say one thing which to some may appear incredible, but it is no less true; the cutters of my machine have not been sharpened since I have had it; nor have I yet seen any appearance of a need of it in the equality of its work. How many harvest's a machine would cut without sharpening is hard to say; I propose sharpening mine once a year only. I have used two horses at a time in the machine, and sometimes changed at noon; they worked it with ease, the draught being light. I took no account of what I cut in any one day, with this exception; in less than half a day I cut six acres, and was often detained for want of the requisite number of binders; by which much time was lost.—My machine being something narrower than those generally made by Mr. Hussey, I could cut but about one acre in going two miles, this at the moderate gait of two and a half miles per hour would amount to twelve and a half acres in ten hours, and at four miles per hour, a speed at which the work is done in fine style, the amount would be twenty acres in ten hours. I should judge my quantity per day ranges between ten and fifteen acres—yet, I am decided in the opinion that I can cut twenty acres in a day, in good grain, on good ground by the usual diligence of harvest hands, with a little increase of my usual speed, and a change of horses. Two hands are required to work the machine, a man to push off the grain and a boy to drive, besides a number of binders proportioned to the quantity cut. As the machine can be drawn equally fast in heavy or light grain, the number of binders are necessarily increased in

heavy grain, except an additional speed be given in light grain. Under every circumstance, the number of binders will vary from four to ten; and when the usual care is practiced by the binders there will be much less waste than in any other method of cutting.

I speak with more confidence of the merits and capacity of Mr. Hussey's reaping machine from the circumstance of having pushed the grain off myself for several days, in order to make myself practically and thoroughly acquainted with it before putting it into the hands of my laboring men. The land in this county being rather rocky, and uneven, it is hard to say what will be the ultimate advantages of these machines to our farmers, but from what little experience I have had, I am resolved not to be without one or two of them, I can therefore recommend the machine with c nfidence, especially to those who have a large portion of smooth ground in cultivation. It is undoubtedly a labor saving machine, and worthy of their attention.

JOHN STONEBRAKER.

Hagerstown, Aug. 15, 1837.

Notes by the Way.

By a Western Correspondent of the Maine Farmer.

FRIEND HOLMES: Previous to commencing the remarks which I proposed offering on subjects noticed in my late tour to the Scioto Valley, I will make a few observations on some topics connected with agriculture, which have attracted my attention since I came to this part of the country, and on my way hither, and on which I have not heretofore commented. And first, as to animals. I was surprised at the meagre appearance of the hack and truck or dray horses of the city of New York, compared with those of Boston. The carts or cars on which the 'Yorkers' do their *trucking*, (as we call it,) are ill looking rickety old things, no more to be compared with the vehicles used for this business in Boston, than are the horses, which, judging from those I saw, are at least fifty per cent inferior to those of the latter place. The horses used on the canal, appeared to be generally middling hardy and strong; but the number of *good* ones compared with the whole, is much smaller than I had expected to find. There are *some* very good *draught* horses to be met with in this State, (that is where I have been,) and a *few* perhaps, nearly as good as I have ever seen. They much resemble the heavy draught horses of Pennsylvania, and are probably of the same stock, having been brougbt out here by the Dutch emigrants from that State. They are used for heavy wagons and great loads, and for farm labor—very few oxen being worked. But a genuine *roadster*, or a good light carriage horse, I have scarcely seen this side of Buffalo. An agent of Reeside & Co., (mail contractors, I believe) told me the other day, that he could, with four good stage teams from Vermont or New Hampshire, 'kill out,' (to use his words,) 'all the stage horses raised in the State of Ohio.' He told me that Col. Reeside has now in use some teams of horses which he purchased in Vermont, of the famous Morgan breed; and that they are unrivalled by any horses bred in this part of the country. He said 'they never got tired, and their legs and joints never got sprung.' The defects of the road horses bred here, appear to me to be, too large bones, loose make, and want of muscle and constitution. There have been introduced here, within a few years, several blood stallions from Virginia and Kentucy; and whether an improvement in the breed of horses has thus resulted, I cannot say. As a *general rule*, however, I should be inclined to doubt it.

Neat Cattle.—I saw two very fine herds of cattle in the State of New York, one, (which I have before alluded to,)belonging to Hon. Mr. Van Rensselaer of Albany, the other to a gentleman, whose name I don't recollect, near Utica. I have also seen the fine cattle on the Scioto, imported by the Ohio Stock Company. Of the latter I shall have occasion to speak hereafter. With these three lots excepted, the cattle I have seen in New York and this State, are rather inferior in form and appearance, for *any purpose*, to those of New England, and I should think twenty-five per cent at least, on an average, inferior to those of Kennebec County. As I before observed, few oxen are worked, and those few are not half broken. They lay out as much strength in *hauling*, (pulling apart,) or in *crowding*, as they do in pulling the load. I have seen a few teams, of six oxen each, engaged in hauling logs or stones for the public works going on, upon the Muskingum river. The drivers drive with a stick resembling a common bean pole, just about the same size, with a long strip of sole leath- attached to one end for a lash. This they use with both hands when they want to '*crack 'em up.*'

Sheep.—Those which I saw in the State of New York were chiefly of the Merino and Saxon breed, of medium quality. (There are other celebrated breeds in this State but I did not see them.) Most of those which I have seen in Ohio, (there are some exceptions) seem to be a mixed breed of no fixed character, with light hairy fleeces.

Swine.—Of these there are plenty in New York, and *great* numbers in this State, (Ohio.) About Albany and vicinity, I saw many very good shaped ones, some of which appeared to be crossed with the Berkshire breed. The woods of this State, and in fact the whole country, towns, cities and all, swarm with the most ill-looking animals on which you ever saw bristles. I am told, however, that in the more immediate neighborhood of Cincinnati, and on the Miami, the breed of swine is much improved, and still improving. I have seen in this town a pair of pigs of the Chinese breed, and in a neighboring town a sow and litter of pigs of the same breed. It is my deliberate opinion that if this breed, or some other of the improved breeds, could be generally adopted through this State, two, if not more pounds of pork might be made where but one is made now, with the same expense.

Permit me to remark, by the way, that this practice af letting hogs run at large, is one of the most annoying nuisances to a New Englander that he is obliged to encounter in this country. It would seem that the practice creates more inconvenience in the towns than in the country, as they are very numerous, and go where they please: and as most of the houses have no fence in front, but stand on a line with the street, the most fastiduous lady cannot step on to her front door stone without the liability of being presented with '*fresh compliments*,' from the swinish multitude. The wells from which the people obtain their water for domestic purposes, are situated in the public streets, so that many families are accommodated from one pump. The ground is always wet and cool close to these pumps, and in hot days the hogs have an excellent wallowing hole by them. This undoubtedly, (as the hogs have the liberty of going to almost all *other places*,) makes the water *sweet* and *wholesome*.—Yet, notwithstanding all this, I suppose an edict for shutting up the hogs, would excite a *rebellion* about as quick as would a *direct tax on whiskey*.

The making of pork in this country, with proper management, is undoubtedly very profitable business. The common method with the farmers, is to let the hogs 'grub for themselves' in the fields and woods, through the summer and autumn, and then feed a little with corn and kill them. Thus managed, they are generally very poor at this time of year, but they fare voluptuously, and I am told fatten very fast, when the acorns and nuts with which the forests abound, begin to fall. A better way, and which I have seen practiced by some, is to feed the hogs in the summer sufficiently to keep them *constantly thriving* and ready to take the *full advantage* of the *fall feed*. The number of hogs which a farmer may keep, and the quantity of pork he may make, with proper attention, is almost incredible. Some even keep five hundred.

Implements of Husbandry.—With some exceptions, these are generally rather rude and considerably inferior to those of New England. Ploughs of cast iron, but not of the best pattern, nor commonly very well wooded, are in general use. For working among their corn, the *shovel* plough, (that is, with no mould-board, but with a share like a round pointed shovel, the convex side up) is used. I have not seen the cultivator this side of Rochester, N. Y. Of harrows, some are of wood and some are of iron. The use of threshing machines is getting quite common here. They are of various patterns, but chiefly from Kennebec. There are Lane's, Pitts', Howard & Stanley's, Pollard & Wales', and Furbush's. Of all these, Lane's seems to have got the best '*foot hold.*' It is undoubtedly an excellent machine, but whether better than the others I can't say. These machines are undoubtedly a great advantage in labor-saving, besides relieving men from a kind of work which I always regarded as the most disagreeable that I was ever called on to perform. I have often thought of a remark of Gilbert Burns, (brother to Robrt B. the poet,) in a letter of his on 'the effects of education and refinement of taste on the laboring classes,' published in Dr. Currier's second edition of Burn's works. He says: 'I can say from my own experience, that there is no sort of farm-labor inconsistent with the most refined and pleasuarable state of the mind, that I am acquainted with, thrashing alone excepted. That, indeed, I have always considered as insupportable drudgery, and think the ingenious mechanic who invented the threshing machine, ought to have a station among the benefactors of his country, and should be placed in the niche next to the person who introduced the culture of potatoes.'

Buildings.—These, in the country, are mostly made of logs. The dwelling houses do not essentially differ from the log houses in the new settlements of Maine, excepting that they are intended considerably as a protection against the heat; whereas with you, they are only intended to keep out the cold. In the middle and southerly part of this State, but few barns are built, and these are only intended as shelter for grain and work horses. The hay and straw, what little is saved, is principally stacked and foddered out of doors in open air. Cattle and sheep have commonly no shelter but the woods, at any season, and as the trees are deciduous (there are no evergreens here) it must be rath- a poor protection against the storms of winter. However, you will bear in mind that the mercury does not get down to thirty-five. Some few farmers build sheds of rails, (sometimes of boards) covered with straw, for their stock to go under in inclement weather. This is probably better than nothing; but it appears to me that the treatment their cattle receive in winter, must get them 'dog poor' by the time grass grows in spring.

Being very closely engaged, I hope to be excused for thus somewhat abrubtly breaking off this communication, without having even arrived at the subject which I intended treating on when I commenced. I shall attend to this the earliest season.

Yours, &c.

A WESTERN CORRESPONDENT.

Zanesville, Aug. 12, 1837.

Agricultural Survey of Massachusetts.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has earned a new and most honorable distinction, by having first of all the confederated states, directed the making an agricultural survey of her territory. The execution of this important public work is entrusted to the Rev. Henry Colman, who is very advantageously known as a farmer, and writer on agriculture.

The people of New-England are noted for understanding well their pecuniary interest, and pursuing whatever course tends to promote their profit; and we believe that they never had a better chance to get back fully, and with increase, their "money's worth," than upon the sum that will be expended in this earliest adventure of this kind in our new country. If we did not know it to be as vain as "to call spirits from the vasty deep," we should earnestly recommend to the people and legislature of Virginia, to follow this example of our hard-working, frugal, and thrifty sister commonwealth, Massachusetts.

As the first and an essential step towards restoring the health and vigor of a sick man, is for the physician to search out and to learn the nature, the extent, the malignity of his diseases, so is it a necessary preliminary to general or extensive improvement of agriculture throughout a country, to know well its existing condition—including all that is wrong, as well as all that is correct, commendable and profitable. When the British Board of Agriculture was established, the first and most valuable measure undertaken, was the execution of minute and accurate agricultural surveys of every county in Britain, the results of which were presented the public in full reports. This part of the operations of the board, engaged the labors and the talents of perhaps fifty of the best informed scientific agriculturists and practical farmers of Britain; and

their reports though confined mostly to statements of then existing circumstances, contained a more valuable and instructive body of information than ever had before been presented to the farmers of that country, and the world. Before that time, many old and useful practices, of some districts, were scarcely known at the distance of fifty or an hundred miles. Among the earliest fruits of the surveys, and obtained almost immediately, was the first public information of Elkington's theory and mode of vertical draining, and the process of "*warping*," (or adding to the soil of tide lands by retaining and depositing the mud suspended by the water) – the first of which alone, to a country like Britain, was worth the cost of all the country surveys. Parliament even voted a reward of 1000*l* sterling to Elkington—a rare, if not a singular case of benefits to agriculture being thus acknowledged and rewarded, by any government.

The expense permitted to be incurred for the survey of the State of Massachusetts will probably not exceed what the British Government paid for the single county of Yorkshire—and of course the performance of service,and the utility,must be slight and imperfect, compared to what might be available. Still, it must be very beneficial to the improvement of the agriculture of Massachusetts; and such a work would be productive of tenfold profit to Virginia, Maryland, or the Carolinias, (without looking further,) because their natural and as yet almost dormant resources for improvement are very far greater than those of Massachusetts.

But neither this measure, nor any other of the many by which agricultural instruction and improvement and profit might be advanced by government, are to be hoped for in Virginia. We *have hoped*, but now *despair* of any such movements and their results. Rather than pay $10,000 for the benefit and improvement of agricultural interests, the legislature of Virginia would expend $100,000 in the time and cost of speechifying against any measures proposed for that end. Very recently, an extra session was held, which cost nearly $30,000, (and which was not grudged, and has scarcely been comcomplain of,) solely for the purpose of relieving the banks from the penalties which they had incurred, by violating their legal and most solemn and imperative obligation to pay specie for their bills—and to place these institutions for all future time, beyond all control of any legal or moral obligations, by showing them with what absolute impunity their most solemn and necessary restrictions might be disregarded and contemned. If the question had been to pay as much as this recent expense of extra and iniquitous and destructive legislation, the most undoubted and solid benefits of agriculture, probably not more than twenty members of the body would have voted for the appropriation; and in such a case, we incline to believe that ten out of twenty would have been turned out of their places, for that vote, as the next election, by their former friends and constituents belonging to the agricultural interests.—*Farmer's Register.*

Improved Grain Cradle.

Rev. Henry Colman,—*Dear Sir:* When I last saw you, you gave into my keeping an implement, new at least in this part of the country, which Mr. Charles Vaughn, of Hallowell, Maine, had sent to you, and recommended as a substitute for the sickle and a cradle in harvesting wheat. Mr. Vaughn has described it in an article which was copied into the New England Farmer of the 2d ult. Having had opportunity to witness its operation in harvesting wheat, rye and oats, I am very happy to agree with Mr. Vaughn in the opinion expressed by him, that the use of this implement will be a great saving of labor. And I think that farmers are under great obligations to him for his praise-worthy endeavors to make them acquainted with a tool, at the same time so valuable, so cheap, and so easily constructed.

The advantages of Mr. Vaughn's cradle, are, that four times as much grain may be harvested in a day with it as with a sickle, and that the straw may be cut as close to the ground as in mowing grass, so that no waste stubble is left. It is much lighter, more easily made, and kept in repair, than the common clumsy cradle, which is burdensome for a man to bear on his shoulder, and which to swing all day, requires great strength and effort. To reap half an acre of grain, is considered a fair day's work; and to do this well, a man must have had some experience in the business. To use the old-fashioned cradle requires so much dexterity, that, with us, it is almost a trade by itself; and a cradler demands and receives two or three times as much pay as a common laborer. With the improved cradle, after a little use, a good mower will be able to reap as much ground in a day, as he could mow, and to leave the grain in good order to bind up. It is no inconsiderable advantage to cut the straw close to the ground.

The cheapness and simplicity of the construction of this new cradle, and the facility with which it may be used are great recommendations. I cannot but think that if this implement were more extensively known, it would be considered a great acquisition to the farmer's stock of tools, and that it would be the means of saving him much time and labor.

I am, dear sir,
Very truly, your obliged friend,
DANIEL P. KING.

Danvers, August 28, 1837. [*N. E. Farmer.*

Wilson's Mowing Machine.

The subscribers, having witnessed, on the 11th August, on the farm of Mr. Teller, of Greenbush, the operation of Wilson's Mowing Machine, certify to the following facts:

The machine was propelled by one horse, upon a brisk walk, through a meadow of thick timothy and redtop, somewhat lodged or tangled. It cut a swarth from two and a half to three feet broad, in handsome style. We are of opinion, that with a double team, or two stout horses to relieve each other at intervals, the machine will operate well on smooth bottoms, free from stones, and effect a great saving of manual labor. The knives are sharpened by their revolving motion.

We think Mr. Wilson entitled to great credit for his skill and perseverance, and hope he may be amply remunerated for both.

WILLIAM AKIN, WILLIAM TELLER,
JOHN TOWNSEND, ISAAC AKIN,
J. BUEL, AARON B. AKIN,
BENJ. AKIN, THOMAS DUNN.
August 12, 1837. [*Cultivator.*

More Durham Short Horns.—The Ohio people are certainly doing the handsome thing in importing these noble breeds of English cattle. They are determined to sustain the high agricultural character of their fertile State. On the 15th eight noble specimens, all calved within a year or two, reached Scioto, from England; also, ten famous Leicestershire sheep. One of the heifers aged *two* years weighs *only* 1300 lbs.!—*Star,*

The crops appear to have been excellent westward—and prices are much reduced. The Kalamazoo (Mich.) Gazette mentions that new wheat sells there for 6s. to 7s., potatoes 31 cents, best beef steaks 6 to 7 cents, &c. The same paper mentions a farmer who had realized 35 bushels of wheat from every acre sowed with only one bushel of seed, and that many farmers in that county had from 30 to 40 bushels wheat per acre.

A curious phenomenon was observed in Vevay, Switzerland. An immense water spout was seen to rise from the lake and lose itself in a cloud several thousand feet high. So great was the force of the current of air compressed by the water-spout that a large walnut tree was torn up by the roots.

It is computed that the Maine bounty of ten cents on every bushel of wheat over forty raised by any one farmer, will this year cost that state between two and three thousand dollars!

Lord Erskine, in his "Letter to Lord Liverpool," speaking of the threats of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, thus expressed himself;—With all the force they collect, there is *one Empire* which they can never hope to subdue—*the empire of opinion*, whose throne is the *liberty of the press.*

Miss Sedgwick's admirable work, "Live and Let Live," issued not a month since, has already passed through six editions.

Fine Sheep for sale.

25 FULL Blood Saxon,
100 full blood Merino.
50 superior Bucks.
100 Lambs, cross bloods.
300 Ewes, do. do.
300 Weathers, in fine condition.

The cross bloods are good Sheep and heavy fleece. The Merino and Saxon are equal to any sheep that can be produced. A credit can be given if required.

LEONARD THOMPSON.
East Bloomfield, Ont. co., Sept. 1837. sep9-f3t

Improved Stock.

THE subscriber has now for sale at his farm, 3½ miles west of the city of Albany, the following choice animals.

Durham Short Horns.
4 Bulls of the ImprovedDurham Short Horns, from 4 months to 7 years old.
6 Cows and Heifers, from 1 to 11 years old.

Sheep.
8 Pure South Down Tup Lambs.
4 do. Hampshire do. do.
6 Hampshire, crossed withthe Bakewell.
1 yearling South Down.
1 do. Hampshire do.
3 do. Bakewell do.
2 Two year old do.
20 Bakewell Ewes.
8 do. do. yearlings.
9 Ewe Lambs, crossed with the Hampshire.
7 Selected Merino Bucks, descended from the stock imported by the late Col. Humphrey of Connecticut.

Applications per mail, [post paid,] will be punctually attended to. CALEB N. BEMENT.
Three Hills Farm, near Albany, Aug. 30, 1837. f6w

Berkshire & Lincolnshire Pigs for sale.

I HAVE a considerable number of late Spring and Summer Berkshire Pigs, crossed with the Lincolnshire, for sale at Whitney's Distillery in the city of Rochester. The character of the Berkshire breed is somewhat known in this country. I believe the Lincolnshire is but very little, if any. I consider the above cross superior to any breed of hogs in America. I have a pig of the above breed that was four months old the 20th of this month. It was put in a pen alone seven weeks ago, it has been well attended to, the result is that the pig gained from 9 to 11 pounds per week.

P. S The Lincolnshire breed was imported by Gov. Maitland of Upper Canada. AMOS SAWYER.
Rochester, Aug. 26, 1837. aug 28–17tr3t

ELECTION NOTICE.—*Sheriff's Office, Monroe County, Rochester, August 8th,* 1837.—A General Election is to be held in the county of Monroe on the 6th, 7th and 8th days of November next, at which will be chosen the officers mentioned in the notice from the Secretary of State, of which a copy is annexed. ELIAS POND, Sheriff.

State of New-York, Secretary's Office, Albany, August 1st, 1837.—Sir: I hereby give you notice that at the next General Election in this State to be held on the 6th, 7th and 8th days of November next, a Senator is to be chosen in the Eighth Senate District in the place of Albert H. Tracy, whose term of service will expire on the last day of December next.

JOHN A. DIX,
Secretary of State.

To the Sheriff of the County of Monroe.

N. B. The Inspectors of Election in the several towns in your county will give notice of the election of Members of Assembly, and for filling any vacancies in County offices which may exist. aug 8–arf

Fruit Trees For Sale.

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has for sale at his Nursery in Rochester, Monroe county, state of New York, a large quantity of Fruit Trees, grafted and innoculated with the most approved kinds, now fit for transplanting, which he will sell on the most reasonable terms. SAMUEL MOULSON.
apr 15–tf

WILLIAM ATKINSON, *LAND AGENT,* 17 Exchange-street, Rochester. ☞ Farms for sale.
march 4 6m

Improved Cultivators.

JUST received from Albany, a few of Bement's Expanding Horse Hoes or Cultivator, with extra mouldboards, &c. complete. These are the most approved and perfect implements of the kind now in use, and deserve the particular attention of Genesee Agriculturists.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.
Rochester Seed Store, June 29, 1337.

Valuable Works on Gardening.

The Young Gardener's Assistant—containing practical directions for the cultivation of Vegetables, Fruits and Flowers. By T. Bridgeman, seedman and florist, New York—seventh edition, improved. Price $1.

The Florist's Guide—containing practical instructions for the cultivation of Flowers. By the same author. Price 37 1-2 cents.

The Kitchen Gardener's Instructer—containing ample directions for the cultivation of culinary vegetables, herbs, &c. By the same author. Price 37 1-2 cents.

For sale by REYNOLDS & BATEHAM,
May 20. Rochester Seed Store,

From the Boston Transcript

Mr. Coke, the Norfolk Farmer.

It was mentioned yesterday, as one of the items of intelligence from England, that the venerable Mr. Coke, the early and staunch friend of the United States when they were struggling Colonies, had been elevated by Queen Victoria to the Peerage, by the title of Viscount Coke and Earl of Leicester.—By the same packet which brought us this intelligence, we received the following opportune letter from our English correspondent:

Holkam Hall, June, 1837.

This place, which is near Wells, and within view, like that town, of the northern coast of the county, is renowned throughout England at least as the seat, and especially as the farm, of old Mr. Coke, the Father of the Farmers of Norfolk; and I am happy, therefore to have enjoyed an excellent opportunity of seeing the estate. I shall not probably find in Great Britain, a better specimen either of the style of life of a "good old country gentleman" of this realm, and of ancient school, or of the management of a first rate practical proprietor's estate. Let me begin by giving you some idea of the latter; premising that this is the same Mr. Coke who moved, in the House of Commons, the discontinuance of the American war of '75, and who, having carried it in that great and excited body by a majority of *one*, was himself, at the suggestion of his friend Mr. Fox, appointed at the head of a committee to take up an address to His Majesty George III., in pursuance of the vote. This he did in his farmer's dress, with his white topp'd boots and frock on, for that was the costume. Every American must respect the old man for this achievement, and they will not like him less to know that, every day at his table, during that barbarious war, he was accustomed, as he often declares now, to drink the health of Gen. Washington, as the greatest man in existence. This liberal spirit has always distinguished Mr. Coke, and he began his career in Parliament with the war itself, and remained in it near 60 years. Were he still a member, which his age [82] now prevents, he would be by many years the "Father of the House."

Well! Now for the state; and first merely as a farmer's. The land here is about 3500 acres; nearly the whole of it is enclosed by a neat, high brick wall, extending about a circuit of 10 miles. This comprises the plantation of wood, and a beautiful "lake," as they call it, both which are wholly artificial. The latter is the finest artificial water I ever saw, and quite deceived me. Nothing could appear more originally rural than its borders, which are completely overshadowed with forests, and as wild altogether as if I had discovered them and the lake itself, in the depth of some solitude of Michigan.—All these woods have been planted. The estate is plentifully sprinkled over with various species of trees, in copses, in acres of forest, and in avenues; and all is artificial work and yet that art so perfect that the warmest love of nature cannot desire more. Instead of a mere park, in one body, it is as one wants it—every where an ornamental and a shelter—over hill and dale—but nowhere in excess, or yet in the way of the farmer. Immediately around the mansion, (of which hereafter) indeed, are only gardens, walks, and a wide extent of velvet lawns on every side; but even these latter are marked with the owner's scheme of the practical. It is not only the pheasant I see shuffling about here in these cool shades. It is not alone the graceful deer that browze and bound along these soft lawns. These are a charm to the eye, and I like the taste which allows them this sweet free range, and which saves the poor beautiful creatures from all harm. Here are the woods too. As I rode through their long winding lanes to-day on horseback, the air was filled with the perfume of forest flowers, and with the chirping and fluttering of birds. The yellow-hammer whirred away on his gay speckled wings, as we trotted up to him; the shining blue-jay glanced "like a javelin by:" and "the wood-pecker tapped at the hollow beach tree."

I might have dreamed myself in woods of Paradise, with all their "starry depth of flowers," ere man had sinned: only at intervals we came on the edge of the lawn, or the arable land, and the mansion, with its cultivated splendor, soon drove that vision from my soul. Here however, is nature in abundance. The place is rich with the *mere* luxuries of nature; richer than ever Roman table was with luscious luxuries of art. And yet, I say, the whole is marked with utility, and there is such an abundance of the practical, that the luxurious is only enough to relieve its monotony, and to refresh the eye and the spirit that may sometimes weary even of the sight or supervision of such a spectacle or management as this. The remoter lawns are spotted with little flocks of sheep, of which over 3000 are kept on the place, of the famous South Devon breed. One meets also in the pastures, these fine, sleek, bright-looking Devon cattle browsing in herds. There are more than 300 of them, including an immense dairy, besides Scotch Cattle. Beyond the lawns, one gets at once into the cultivation, and a ring of this skirted and sheltered here and there with avenues and copses of trees, encircles the whole estate. I rode along the edge of a field of 130 acres of barley, in one place. In another were 60 acres of wheat; and there were also two fields of peas, of 25 and 27 acres.

The arable land is divided about equally between these grains, turneps, and grass, which four crops, sometimes having grass for two seasons, constitute the routine of the succession of tillage on the same ground. There are in cultivation at present, about 430 acres of wheat and barley each, and in fine condition. The head farmer told me that 30 bushels an acre is rather an indifferent crop, and that 40 and 50 are more "the right thing." It must be borne in mind, when I say this, that Holkam has been completely *made over* by Mr. Coke. When he succeeded to the estate, it was a mere desert. There were no trees here even, and it was hardly believed the land would let them grow. Mr. Coke says the rabbits were the only creatures who *could* live on it, and they were starving! Now what a triumph is this! Go with me to-day into this village of Holkam, which all belongs virtually to the estate, and lives by it in one way or another. Here are 500 persons probably besides those sent off, well provided for elsewhere. Their cottages are a curiosity of rural neatness and comfort. Little gardens surround them, and flowers hang out of the windows and climb over the door-way. Some 150 persons are employed on the *farm* alone. Then in the gardens, the light acres of which are surrounded with a wall 1400 yards long, and 14 feet high, are perhaps 40 more; in the brick-yard, 20; in the blacksmith's shop, 10; and some wheelwrights; and game-keepers, I dare say; and a little army of servants, of course, for in the mansion, when the family are here, 20 females alone are employed. The women do some work also on the farm; such as weeding the grain, which as well as the peas, and in fact all the crops, is *drilled*. I saw 20 women in one field, weeding.

Beyond that, and outside of the walls of the regular estate, we came to a "*little bit*" of a plantation of only 600 more. Here they were hard at work.—In one field, where turneps were sowing, all the processes went on at once. There were 20 men and boys spreading manure out of five or six carts, drawn by 3 horses each, (of which there are 100 on the place;) five or six ploughs drawn by two, who ploughed without a driver; then two cast-iron round rolls, by two; three or four harrows, by one; two drill-machines, self-sowing, by two; and then the harrow again, brought up the rear. Horses were used chiefly, but some oxen also, and these were Devon. I noticed their walk, which is brisk and light as that of the best horse. They are not large, but snug, sleek and strong, with small eyes and short horns, a boy rides on the back of one of them, and guides them with a slight bridle, talking to them as our farmers do to a horse. Two of these creatures drew a water-cart into a pond near by, where, by a plug in the bottom, it was filled in a half a minute. I ought to speak of the alms-house for the old, and the schools for the young, and of the farming system more in detail, but there is no room. I will only add, that young farmers come here from all quarters to learn the science. I saw four of them riding over the grounds this morning, who are under the care of the manager. The whole place is considered a model of both the science and art of farming.

Potato flour or starch has been considerably substituted for wheat flour in some parts of New England. Mixed equally with wheat flour, it makes delicious bread—as does a mixture of grated potatoes and flour.

Life Insurance.—It is remarkable that, whell so many avail themselves of the protection afforded by insurance against fire, so few appreciate duly the advantages of *Life Insurance*. The general apathy in the latter case must be attributable to the want of sufficient information on the subject; for otherwise a shrewd community like this would view the policy with feelings the reverse of indifference.

The motive which impels men to protect *property* against fire, would doubtless very generally induce them to shield *their families* from pecuniary distress in consequence of their own death, were the subject of life insurance better understood. The prudence of the late King of Great Britain is remarkable in the fact that even he had his life insured for an amount which would guard his family against any excessive pecuniary reverses in case of his death, &c. With lightning rods, and fire and life insurance policies, the prudent man is freed from many of the apprehensions which beset his improvident neighbors.—*Daily Adv.*

Wood-sawyers Look Out!

We heard a terrible buzzing in our streets one day last week, and on going to learn the cause, found it to proceed from a kind of portable or traveling sawmill propelled by two horses, and which was engaged in cutting up a neighbor's wood pile at a rate that was a "caution" to all wood-sawyers. The principal part of the concern was a threshing machine, but it being out of work in that line just at present, the owner, real yankee like, had determined to make it earn its living in another sphere, and had, therefore, in a small bench or platform, rigged a buzz saw, which being attached to the machine by a strap was propelled with astonishing velocity. We are not apprised of what it is capable of effecting in the wood-sawing line, but we perceived that it took two men to hand wood to the one that applied it to the saw; and ten cords per hour is but an ordinary task for it. For our own part we could not help thinking that when we turned wood-sawyer it would be just the thing we should want.—*Fredonia Censor.*

Mile.

The following exhibit of the number of yards contained in a mile in different countries, will often prove a matter of useful reference to the readers of the Cultivator.

Mile in England or America,	1,760	yards.
—— Russia,	1,100	——
—— Italy,	1,467	——
—— Scotland and Ireland,	2,200	——
—— Poland,	4,400	——
—— Spain,	5,028	——
—— Germany,	5,866	——
—— Sweden and Denmark,	7,233	——
—— Hungary,	8,800	——
League, in England or America,	5,280	——

[*Cultivator.*

For coloring flannels take black alder bark—boil it well—then skim or strain the liquor. Wet the cloth with a pretty strong ley, and dip it into the alder liquor—let it remain until cool enough to ring, and you have an indelible orange color.

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nurseries, Greece, Monroe Co., N. Y.

THIS establishment now comprises over 20 acres, covered compactly with Trees and Plants in the different stages of their growth.

The subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Grape Vines, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, splendid Pæonies, Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Also, a large collection of Green House Plants, of choice and select varieties, in good condition.

Orders respectfully solicited. Trees and Plants, when ordered, are carefully selected and faithfully packed, and if desired delivered on the canal one mile from the Nursery, or at Rochester.

Orders for Mr. Rowe's Nursery received by the publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to every applicant gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer.

April 1, 1837. ASA ROWE.